

(Bulletin for Statehouse, Capitol Mall Employees Sept. 17, 2001)

Department of Administration
Construction Update No. 7



Worker prepares East Steps "cheek wall" area for masonry repair.

Capitol East Steps Replacement Work Slows, Concrete Removal Uncovers Unknown Conditions

Work has slowed this week on the East Steps Replacement Project as part of the Capitol Restoration effort. According to Jan Frew, Design and Construction Manager, Division of Public Works, work on the steps was suspended for a time to evaluate some unknown conditions that were uncovered during the removal over the past couple of weeks of concrete from the East Steps areas.

The structure supporting the new stairs had to be revised a bit to work with the existing support walls and cheek wall conditions that were exposed after the layers of stairs were removed. Work will resume within the next few days. The "re-pointing" of masonry joints is continuing. This work also ran into a delay when the wrong color of mortar was delivered to the job site, Frew explained. New mortar has been ordered and will arrive this week. Workmen will be removing mortar surrounding the stones near each window opening. The mortar in these joints will be replaced with a sealant material that is more flexible than the cement mortar material. This will allow the stone to move slightly in response to climate changes and prevent cracking.

Please note: The intent of **Renewal News** is to provide readers the most current and complete information as possible regarding construction activities during the Capitol Restoration project. However, construction schedules are always subject to change, based upon weather conditions, transport and acquisition of support equipment and personnel, or other unforeseen circumstances.) Inquiries, comments on the Restoration effort can be sent to **Diane Garcia** dgarcia@adm.state.id.us You can also view all issues of **Renewal News** online at: <http://www.capitolcommission.idaho.gov/restoration/renewalnews.html> If you have questions about this newsletter, contact **Pat Wynn** at 332-1827 or pwynn@adm.state.id.us